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Our Mission

Brewster Place is a retirement community providing all of its residents opportunities for an optimal quality of life.



The Brewster Health Center is accredited by The Joint Commission.

Creating a Legacy of Value and Service



Phyllis McMahon, M.L. Davis, Virginia Tevis, Alice Barron, Martha Williams

The dictionary would define legacy as a gift or bequest that is handed down, endowed, or conveyed from one person to another. But leaving a legacy can be so much more — legacy can be sharing what you have learned and handing down your values by making meaningful and lasting contributions to humanity. As a 52 year old not-for-profit organization, Brewster Place has many “legacy stories” which, when woven together, make us who we are today.

Recently we gathered together five strong, compassionate, intelligent women of Brewster Place. Of course these adjectives describe all of our residents, but these five ladies share something else — each of them were staff members of Brewster Place in the early years — the 1960s.

Martha Williams is a new resident at Brewster East, but she is not new to Brewster Place. Martha received her degree in personnel from the University of Kansas. In 1964 she became our first director of personnel. In her work Martha took applications from prospective employees, placed ads in the newspaper, interviewed applicants and dealt with staff issues. She said, “my strong suit was helping others and by working with staff, especially those who didn’t have degrees, I was able to help them realize how important they were.” She added, “the purpose of Brewster Place was to have a nice retirement facility and it was a good thing for Topeka.” When asked why living at Brewster Place was important to her, Martha said, “It’s the most caring place. I leave my apartment, head down the hallway, ride the elevator, walk to my car and all along the way I get to meet people.”

In the mid 1960s, M.L. Davis, who now lives in the Aspen cottages, became the second director of personnel at Brewster Place. M.L. received her degree in English, history and education from the University of Kansas. Her tenure at Brewster Place was only a couple of years, and she remembers her time here fondly. She especially remembers helping the late Vivian Umbarger, the first director of social services, with socials and other activities. Staff members wore many hats and they helped each other when needed. M.L. also said game day

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Getting to Know Our Residents

by Phyllis McMahon, Resident Volunteer



Linda Jackson
1205 SW 29th, MB 102
Ph. 274-5586

Linda Jackson moved to Brewster Place in September of 2015. Born in Nevada, Missouri, she attended schools there until her senior year. Her family moved to Topeka where Linda graduated from Topeka West High School. Linda's husband, Larry, was born in El Dorado, Kansas. He and his mother moved to Augusta, Kansas, where he attended school and graduated from Augusta High School. Larry joined the Air Force and was stationed at Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, where he and Linda met. After four years of military service, Larry worked at Goodyear until retiring. He died in August of 2015.

Linda was a receptionist for Dr. Chen and Dr. Lee for ten years. She remembers when "the tornado" hit, and she stayed with a friend in her basement. Linda has a younger sister, Dana Hammontree. Dana comes to visit, takes her to appointments and shopping. Linda has two nieces, Katie and Janice.

Dee Moore visited Linda to give her more information about Brewster Place. Before moving here, she downsized from her large house and also had to get rid of her large furniture that fit in her home. Linda is pleased to be at Brewster Place. She fixes her own breakfast, but goes to the dining room for lunch and dinner. During time in the dining room, Linda enjoys meeting and visiting with new friends. ■



Judy Cutright
1205 SW 29th, MB 402
Ph. 274-5565

Judy Cutright moved to Brewster Place in November of 2015. Born in Wheaton, Kansas, she graduated from Wheaton High School. There she liked typing, bookkeeping and she "loved math!" After graduating Judy came to Topeka for a job. While in Topeka she met her husband, Dean. He had graduated from Topeka High School.

Soon after they married, Dean was drafted. They moved to Texas for his military service. Two years later they returned to Topeka with their baby daughter. Judy worked for Kansas Electric Supply for two years and Dean worked at Goodyear. Later they purchased three acres of land north of Rossville where they built a large house. Their son and daughter graduated from Rossville High School.

After Dean retired they sold their home, bought a fifth wheel, and later a motor home. They visited every state in the Union. When they traveled to Hawaii they took a cruise. One entire summer was spent in Alaska where Judy and her husband loved to fish, casting their lines from the shore. Judy caught a 31 pound king salmon. They purchased a very large cooler to fill with fresh caught salmon to bring home.

Judy's daughter, Vicky, is a Para educator in the Seaman school district. Her son, Troy, is a supervisor at Goodyear. Judy has five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her husband died in 2013. While living in an apartment, friends told Judy about Brewster Place. She gave up her car and moved here. She is happy to be at Brewster Place! ■

There's more to experience! | BrewsterPlace.org

News From Security

by Nick Bonfiglio, Security Manager

Drive Safely and Park Smart



Please remember that the speed limit on the Brewster Place campus is 12 miles per hour. This speed limit is posted on our marquees as you travel through campus. Remind each other to drive slowly and look out for others who might be walking on campus.

Also remember to lock your vehicles, secure your valuables and take your keys with you when parking your car. Let's all stay safe and secure this summer! ■

Weather Reminders

Being prepared for severe weather is important. We have had plenty of wet weather lately, and more storms may be headed our way. We offer these reminders to help keep you safe.

- ◆ Check the batteries in your weather radio.
- ◆ If you need to have your radio adjusted or set to the local channel, call Security at 274-5000 and they will assist you.
- ◆ In the event of severe weather, the safest place is the lowest level of your building. If you have questions about where you should go, contact Security and they will help you find the correct area. You can also find detailed weather procedures outlined in your Resident Handbook. ■

Brewster East Party What Grows in Your Garden?

Saturday, June 25
5:00 pm | BE CR



Menu

Pulled Pork and Hamburger Sliders
Grilled Hot Dogs
BBQ Baked Beans
BLT Pasta Salad
Ice Cream Bars
Special Garden Cookies

Reservations are required by calling 274-3359.

Pet Reminders

Please remember to pick up after your pet. There are pet stations with bags located on campus to dispose of pet waste. If you need help with your pet, contact our Pet Concierge Service at 274-5000 to set up services. ■

Personal Shopping Service

We also want to remind you that for a small fee, Brewster Place will go to the grocery store, pharmacy, or specialty shop for you and get the items you need such as toiletries, snacks, or that favorite ice cream flavor you enjoy.

And, of course, if you like to get out and about on your own, the Tuesday and Thursday shuttle service runs from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm with pick-ups on the hour all around Topeka. The cost is \$5.00. ■



June 2 | **A Brilliant Mind**
(2015 romance)

June 9 | **The Last Man on the Moon**
(2016 documentary)

June 16 | **On the Town**
(1949 musical)

June 23 | **Concussion**
(2015 biography)

June 30 | **Brooklyn**
(2015 romance)

We are showing this again due to some technical issues during the first showing.

...continued from page 1

was a big deal each week and it's not surprising that bridge was "the only game in town." As a current resident, M.L. has been active in many of our life enrichment programs. She thoughtfully stated that, "As you age you have to deal with more issues — one of which is end of life." The support and help received from staff is essential as residents face the future.

As mentioned earlier the late Vivian Umbarger was the first director of social services at Brewster Place. She was a vital member of the staff and after her retirement she became a valued volunteer as well. Upon Vivian's retirement, Alice Barron took over as director of social services. Alice received her degree in sociology from the University of Kansas. She was hired to "get to know the residents" as well as work with social work consultants. Alice also helped with activities and led exercise too. Alice stated, "Of course people with means were attracted to Brewster Place but more importantly intellect and education were valued." A resident who was a retired farmer once told Alice, "Age is really an equalizer."

Alice remembers the weekly socials being started to help people get acquainted. She said, "The most important thing I received while working at Brewster Place were the associations with others. It was a privilege to know residents and staff. My work was a great enrichment to my life." As a resident she feels that everyone seems to genuinely care, which was especially important when she and her husband, Jim, moved in. Jim was experiencing health issues and the support Alice received from staff was meaningful.

Phyllis McMahan also graduated from the University of Kansas. Her degree in physical therapy came just two years after KU graduated their first class in this discipline. Phyllis began her work in 1969 and worked for 20 years as a PT consultant. She worked on the first floor of the medical unit (now Assisted Living) using a utility closet as a treatment room. She said it wasn't unheard of to treat people in the hallway. Phyllis had two rehab aides to assist her and she would also train nurses to help in the rehab process. Her job, just like today, was "to carry out the doctor's orders and get patients as strong as they could be and get them back to their apartments — keep people moving." Phyllis lives in the Aspen cottages with her husband, Tom. She is especially grateful for the wonderful maintenance staff at Brewster Place and says, "This really is a special place."

If you study the history of Brewster Place, there is one name that stands out as the standard bearer of compassionate care, dedication, servanthood and loyalty. Virginia Tevis was the first director of nursing at Brewster Place beginning in 1964. Virginia, a registered nurse, had completed two years of the bachelor of nursing program at Washburn University. She also completed a two-year course at the Menninger Foundation to learn more about the emotional issues facing people in her care. Virginia said, "Those were the good years." She and her husband lived close-by making it easy for Virginia to get to work quickly to fill in if needed — and she worked innumerable hours tending to her beloved residents.

Virginia's coworkers recalled some funny memories of their time at Brewster Place. Phyllis McMahan fondly remembers Virginia telling her, "You have to learn Medicare because nobody else knows what it is." Alice Barron chimed in that she had Virginia go with her on out-of-town activities just in case someone needed help. Virginia wore many hats in her role as director of nursing. No job was too big or too small for Virginia and the residents were always her top priority. Virginia commented, "I had the opportunity to be able to meet and know so many different people — to get to know them and realize they were human beings — even when they needed 24 hour care."

When asked about being a resident of Brewster Place, Virginia said, "After my health issue it was important for me to be someplace where I'd be taken care of. It was reassuring to my family as well." She sees the value of every employee and knows Brewster Place employees wear many hats now too. In fact, she reflected that employees in every area do "social work" every day.

The work these five women did in the early years of Brewster Place helped to solidify our foundation, shape our values and pave the road ahead for others to follow. Of course, they are in the company of many others who for over 52 years have dedicated their careers to the mission of Brewster Place. Virginia and the others have left a wonderful legacy and we strive each day to do the same. As Alice Barron said, "Virginia Tevis was the heart and soul of Brewster Place — she knew every resident." Let us all strive to do the same! ■

From the Chaplain

by Chaplain Roger Jackson, M. Div.

In the first five months of 2016, Brewster Place has experienced the loss of many of our friends and neighbors. These losses affect us all: spouses, staff, family, and friends. So how do we cope with the loss of loved ones and friends? How do we grieve for those with whom we were close?

David Kessler is an author, public speaker, and death and grieving expert. He offers good advice for dealing with the loss of someone or something we care about deeply. He writes the following.

“ As a young boy, I saw my mother fall down just as she was being discharged from the hospital. It frightened me, so I told my mother she should go back in. She looked down at my scared little face and said, ‘People fall, and then hopefully they get back up. That is life.’

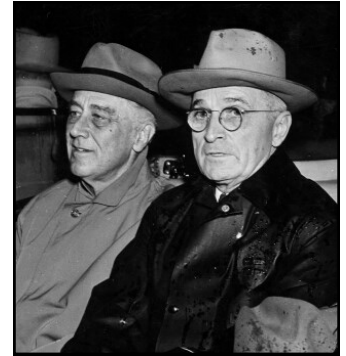
Losses are like falls in many ways. There is something archetypal about loss, whether it is the death of someone or something, a loss of balance, or a fall from grace. We go through the fire. We are changed. Something comes out of the fire anew, a diamond no longer in the rough. Society experiences loss, and so do families and individuals. At first a family may experience the chaos surrounding a loss. It is dismembered. After the loss, it emerges changed. It is remembered.

There are many steps to healing after loss. Feel and acknowledge the loss when you are ready. Let the grace of denial do its work, remembering that you will feel your feelings when you are able. You will discover that the only way out of the pain is through the pain. You will understand it when you are ready. Many times an understanding of loss comes in years, not days or months. You will find that you can accept a world in which the loss has taken place.... We can learn that what really matters is eternal and ours forever. The love that you have felt and the love you have given cannot be lost. ”

If you are grieving in these days, be patient with yourself. Give yourself permission to grieve in your own time. As you journey through the pain, may you experience God's grace anew. ■

**Roosevelt and Truman:
Two Wartime Presidents —
A Comparison and Contrast**
Wednesdays, June 8, 15 and 22
2:00—4:00 pm | Chapel

We'll study the styles of leadership of two American presidents as they dealt with the day-to-day issues of World War II and their plans for post-war recovery in Europe and Asia. We will compare and contrast how FDR was elected four



times while Truman struggled to get elected in his own right. We'll also examine the style and flourish of FDR versus the quiet and reserved Truman. We will review the issues of the time--the Manhattan Project, integration of the Armed Forces and dealing with Stalin and the oncoming Cold War with the Communists. Finally, we'll look at how the White House changed during Roosevelt's and Truman's terms in office.

Instructor

Russ Hutchins teaches United States History, Western Civilization and Economics at Friends University-Topeka. He is a retired public school administrator and educator of 41 years. ■

For more information about
Brewster Place or *BrewsterConnect*
please contact our
Marketing Office at 785-274-3350.
Or visit us online at
www.BrewsterLiving.org

Topeka Gives is a one day event celebrating charitable giving. The Topeka Community Foundation will provide \$73,500 in “match” money for contri-



Tuesday, June 7, 2016
Fairlawn Plaza Mall
7:00 am—6:00 pm

Transportation is available for Brewster Place residents followed by a Dutch treat lunch. Please contact Jamie at 274-3398 for reservations.

butions made to support 158 different non-profit organizations in the community — one of which is the Brewster Foundation. A full listing of the non-profit organizations who are participating may be found at topekacommunityfoundation.org, and will also be provided at the event. We will have copies available in the Foundation Office (located in the Main Office) if you prefer to look it over in advance.

There is a \$25 minimum gift and no maximum gift amount. Your gift can support up to five organizations. Contributions must be made in person at the event. You may contribute with cash, check, or credit card. One hundred percent of your gift will go to the organization(s) that you select. However, we have no way of knowing and cannot estimate what the match by Topeka Community Foundation will be. The “match” money, provided by Topeka Community Foundation, will be a prorated match and not a dollar for dollar match.

You are welcome to have your gift made anonymously and your gift is 100% tax deductible, as allowable by law.

We encourage you to support this event. As well as being a wonderful opportunity for charitable giving, it is a fun day of learning more about the non-profit organizations in Topeka. ■



facebook.com/brewsterplace.org

Topeka Gives

Foundation Events in June

Foundation Forum

Happenings at Mulvane Art Museum

Thursday, June 2

10:00 am | BE CR

The Forum will feature our friends from the Mulvane Art Museum. They will discuss happenings at the museum and how those events and programs fit in with the rest of the Topeka art community. This presentation also takes place prior to the Mulvane Art Fair on June 4 and 5. We will gain insight on the purpose of this event and the time and effort required to make it happen. Come join us! ■

Books for Kids Giveaway

Wednesday, June 8

1:30—4:30 pm | MB FR

Thanks to our anonymous donor, the Brewster Foundation is holding another Books for Kids event—just in time for summer reading! This event is for dependents of Brewster staff. The goal of our donor is to put books into the hands of our young people to promote enjoyment of reading. There will be books for young people from preschool age to middle school age. Stop by the Main Building Founders Room with your kids or grandkids, and pick up some fun reading material! ■

News & Views with Kevin McFarland

Tuesday, June 14

10:00 am | CSP

Join Kevin McFarland and the Foundation for an always entertaining and thought-provoking discussion. We will spend time discussing the current news of the day. Kevin is sure to bring an interesting spin on the news, and always the ever famous joke to end the discussion! ■

A Celebration of Weddings

The Not So New Newlywed Game

Thursday, June 9

3:00 pm | KAC

Join us for this old-time game with some “not-so-new” and “almost new” newlyweds. Let’s see how much they truly know each other!

Our Wonderful Couples!

- ◆ Julie and Ken Schmanke
- ◆ Phyllis and Gordon Lansford
- ◆ Maxine Gilbert and Curtis Thuston



You Are Invited!

A Brewster Wedding

Vow Renewal Wedding Ceremony

Ken and Julie Schmanke

Friday, June 24

3:00 pm | KAC

Everyone knows and loves this happy and fun couple. All are invited to share in this special renewal of vows. You really don’t want to miss this!

The Wedding Photo Reveal

Thursday, June 23

2:30 pm | KAC

Many residents have submitted their wedding photos. We will show the photos on the big screen and see if you can guess the couple. Do you think anyone has changed?

You still have time to submit your wedding photo to be included in the Wedding Photo Reveal on June 23. Please bring your photo to Maxine in the Main Office. We will scan the photo and return it to you. Thank you!

The Market Is Wonderful!

by Bobbie Smelter, Resident

The managers are fantastic and so efficient. Food is so different and delicious and I enjoy it because of the different items. The arrangement of the Market is pleasant – light and bright and clean. The paninis cannot be beat – just wonderful, as are the wraps. I’ve had Milton’s soup several times and it’s delicious. The Root Soup is wonderful. My family also thoroughly enjoys going to the Market and eating at the Pavilion and looking out at the scenery and water feature. Wonderful for people to see outdoors. Overall I wouldn’t change a thing about the Market. ■

Main Building Dining Room Hours of Service

Breakfast

7:00 am—10:00 am

Lunch

11:15 am—1:00 pm

Dinner

4:00 pm—6:00 pm

Coupons for The Market on Main Street!

Meet me at the Market!

Half-price Hot Breakfast Buffet Coupon

(does not include beverages, bakery or other items)

Buffet open Monday—Thursday and Saturday

8:00 am—10:30 am

Offer expires June 30, 2016

Meet me at the Market!

Half-price Dinner Buffet Coupon

(does not include beverages, salad bar or other items)

Buffet open every Friday evening during Social

4:30 pm—5:30 pm

Offer expires June 30, 2016

Brewster Supports the **ARTS** in Our Community

Mulvane Art Fair

The Mulvane Art Fair is a juried art fair that features more than 90 artists using a variety of media from across the state, region and country. Media include works of art in ceramics, drawing, fiber, glass, jewelry, metal, mixed media, painting, photography, sculpture and wood. The event also features a live music stage, a beer garden, and exciting food options. Proceeds from the Mulvane Art Fair support the programs and mission of the Mulvane Art Museum.

The Fair is June 4 and 5 on the campus of Washburn University. Brewster is proud to sponsor the Mulvane Art Fair Patron's breakfast. As part of our sponsorship, we have 25 free tickets to the Fair. If you are interested in a ticket, please call Maxine at 274-3374 in the Main Office.

Sunflower Music Festival

The Sunflower Music Festival was organized in 1987 and this year is the 30th Anniversary of the Festival. Brewster is once again proud to be a sponsor of this wonderful concert series. The concerts are offered free to the public. Musicians from come from national and international symphonies and musical institutions. In addition, through the Blanche Bryden Institute, both high school and college musicians, age 14—26, come together for a week of learning and performance coached by Sunflower Orchestra musicians.

The Sunflower Music Festival runs June 10—18 and the Brewster bus will be headed to White Concert Hall at Washburn University for each concert. The majority of the concerts are in the evening with the bus leaving campus at 6:45 pm. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 for reservations. ■

The ARTS engage the mind, enliven the spirit and feed the soul.

Taking Part, Living Enriched!



Left: Jean Ragan and other residents enjoyed ice cream on the Veranda during the Brewster Foundation Ice Cream Social and Croquet. The cool weather didn't keep people from enjoying the tasty treat! The croquet was rained out but we'll try again soon!



Above: Tom and Phyllis McMahon and Georgiana Morrill enjoyed a Tour of Allen Fieldhouse as part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. All three are KU graduates!

Right: Enjoying the Friday Social recently were Bart Ramsey and Ray Beers. These two great gentleman are well-known in the Topeka community for their many contributions. They were having a fine time catching up!



Birthdays

Erna Nichol	1
Janet Bair-Rost	3
Emma Lou Vawter	5
Mary Davis	7
Dorothy Beverly	8
Betty Gilbert	9
Dan Cain	10
Jack Renander	10
Leona Brinkmeyer	11
Hazel Cramer	12
Jerry Hinton	12
Winnie Kingman	13
Raymond Miller	13
Dottie Harder	14
Paul Metzger	14
Jerry Reed	14
Freida Schriener	14
Rolland Trahoon	14
Louise Smith	15
Celia Eddy	16
Clyde Burton	17
Dorothy Prager	19
Edward Stein	21
Janet Strukel	21
Ray Beers	23
Dottie Richard	23
Bob Sparling	23
Bill Koehn	24
Myrna Wegner	25
Betty Penney	27
Phyllis Stroud	27
Lois Fensler	28

Anniversaries

Benny and Wanda Meyer	6/2/1957
Paul and Beverly Hammond	6/5/1960
John and Lonna Reinecke	6/6/1965
Kenneth and Doris Peery	6/7/1953
Tom and Phyllis McMahan	6/10/1950
Eugene and Waunita Shoemaker	6/14/2014
Clifford and Alice Hurst	6/20/1952
Irwin and Betty Rosen	6/22/1947
John and Dorothy Funk	6/24/1950
Adrian and Mary Allen	6/27/1953

New Residents

Charlene Swanson	Maple 101
Dorothy Richard	MB 406
Alice Sundermeyer	BE 239

Transfers

Ruth Fecteau	MB 419
Jean Kesler	BHC

Staff Anniversaries

Brewster staff members who are celebrating their employment anniversaries in June!

Department	Location	Years
<u>Health Services</u>		
Allyssa West	BHC	2
Jessica Lozano	BHC	3
Lissa Mehmel	BHC	8
Erica Riley	BHC	1
Kasandria Shepard	BHC	1
Ashlea Spivey	BHC	1
Larael Jones	BHC	1
<u>Assisted Living</u>		
Tina Oliver	AL	4
Tonya Corwin	AL	1
<u>Home Health</u>		
Diana Guyton	MB/AL	3
<u>Therapy</u>		
Jebel Odgers	BHC	1
Dorene Dodson	BHC	4
Autumn Brading	BHC	1
Rochelle Pyle	BHC	1
Heather Holthaus	BHC	2
Karen Watson	BHC	1
<u>Rehab</u>		
Chelsea Means	BHC	2
Deborah Rennie	BHC	10
Maria Prater	BHC	4
<u>Maintenance</u>		
Gerald Hutley	Campus	13
Ronald Burgen	Campus	1
<u>Security/Transportation</u>		
Arthur Wiseman, Jr.	Campus	5
Sharon Palmeroni	Campus	1
Rosa Ransom	Campus	10
Kevin Coffman	Campus	1
<u>Food Service</u>		
Joane Williams	BE	5
<u>Administrative</u>		
Cara Puglisi	SH	1
<u>Information Technology</u>		
John Long	MB	5
<u>Housekeeping/Custodial</u>		
Richard Wilson	Campus	7
Dorothy Arnold	Campus	36
Bertha Cavens	Campus	3

In Memoriam

Mr. Billy Lewis	4/27/16
Mrs. Jean Grecian	4/27/16
Mrs. Marcella Eschenburg	5/1/16
Mr. Warren Kinnett	5/4/16
Mrs. Patricia McEwan	5/8/16
Mrs. Alberta Tyrrell	5/14/16
Mrs. Phyllis Ritter	5/23/16
Mr. Frank Cohoon	5/23/16